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Underwater Works in the Narva River

1. "The 'Third Leningrad Unit of Military River Divers' (Otriad Leningradskikh Volenno-Morskikh Vodolazov) are at present executing all sorts of underwater works at the construction of the Narva hydroelectrical power station. Some years ago the same unit laid the household gas pipeline leading from Kohtla-Järve to Leningrad over the Narva River. The unit is part of the 'Leningrad Platoon (vzvod) of Military River Divers'. In peacetime the platoon is employed at various kinds of underwater works on the rivers of the Leningrad oblast.

Narva Hydroelectric Station

2. "In winter 1953-54 work was started on a powerful hydroelectric station on the Narva River, close to the Kreenholm textile mills. The plans for this station were prepared by the Soviet female architect (fnu) Vinogradova. At present work is in progress on the foundations of a branch-canal. By February 1954 over 45,000 sq metres of reinforced concrete had been used for this purpose.
3. "Around the construction site a whole new town with barracks, a school, a clubhouse and a bathhouse have been constructed for the approximately 3000 workers engaged in the construction. Close to the future power station have been erected two concrete-mixing shops, a mechanical workshop, an armature workshop and an automobile repair shop, also a sawmill and a truck base.
4. "The main building of the power station is to be 54 m high. The water is to fall on the turbines from a height of 25 m. The entire reinforced concrete dam is to be 200 m long. Work on the first part of the dam is estimated to be finished by the end of 1954. Work on the second part is to start at the end of April or beginning of May 1954. In course of time the river will be deflected into the new canal and its old bed laid dry.

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5. A water reservoir for the power station is to be located on the site of Kulgu, a former suburb of Narva. The forest growing further south has been cut down. Work is also in progress on the bottom of the reservoir, which is expected to become a good fishing ground in the future since fish from Lake Peipsi must naturally collect there.
6. Most of the work at the future power station is to be automatic. Only three or four men per shift will be needed to operate the station. All automatic appliances will be switched on from a single switchboard.

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